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C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 004475

SIPDIS

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SUBJECT: EU COTER TROIKA ON LIFTING LIBYA ARMS EMBARGO

REF: STATE 221188

Classified By: USEU Poloff Van Reidhead for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)

1. (C) S/CT European Regional Director Brent Hartley delivered reftel points to the EU Counter-terrorism troika (COTER) during consultations in Brussels October 14. Reponding for for the EU Presidency, Dutch MFA officer Wouter Jurgens underscored that the US and EU were "on the same page" regarding the positive direction in which Libya is now moving. He said that since the outstanding issues surrounding the Labelle Disco bombing (the reason for the EU embargo) had been solved, and since Libya was making good progress on WMD and terrorism, there was no longer any reason to maintain the embargo. He emphasized that the EU's Code of Conduct for arms exports would still apply, as would the "Toolbox" measures for post-embargo countries, once finalized. Jurgens said that until the US removed Libya from its State Sponsors of Terrorism list, he hoped we would use our waiver authority to prevent any retaliation against EU countries doing business with Libya. Other troika participants from The Hague, Luxembourg, Commission and Council Secretariat did not comment.

Schnabel